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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Schaldach, et al.

Examiner: Unknown

Serial No: 10/021,899

Art Unit: Unknown

For: METHOD FOR INSTALLING A MARKER ELEMENT TO AN IMPLANT
AND AN IMPLANT PROVIDED WITH A MARKER ELEMENT

Filed: 13 December 2001

Date: 8 March 2002

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Under 37 CFR 1.97

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed with the missing parts of the application, so no action on the merits has been taken and it is timely filed without payment of a fee. 37 CFR §1.97(b).

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 CFR §1.56(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13, at 25.

This Information Disclosure Statement is made to comply with the duty of candor imposed on all individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of this application, as defined by 37 CFR §1.56(c).

Six (6) U.S. patents and eight (8) foreign patent documents are listed on the attached one (1) sheet of Form PTO/SB/08A which is made a part hereof. A copy of

attached one (1) sheet of Form PTO/SB/08A which is made a part hereof. A copy of each is enclosed. Also enclosed in the filing papers, but not listed on the form, is a copy of a Search Report dated 9 November 2001 from the German Patent Office on German application 100 64 596.8, from which this US application claims priority.

The German Search Report cites ten patent documents (References AA through AC, and BB through BH), a copy of each being provided herewith. References BB through BH are all in German, but corresponding English equivalents are provided, when possible. In that regard, Reference AD corresponds to Reference BE, Reference AE corresponds to Reference BH and Reference AF corresponds to Reference BD. Reference BA is known to the applicants, although not cited in the German search report. No English equivalent is known for References BB, BC, BF and BG.

References AE, AF, BD, BG, and BH are commonly-owned with the present invention by BIOTRONIK of Germany, but have no common inventor with the present invention. Reference BC is commonly-owned with the present invention by BIOTRONIK of Germany, and has Prof. Dr. Schaldach as a common inventor.

The foregoing Information Disclosure Statement is based upon the information known to the inventor or contained in the undersigned attorney's file as of the filing date of this statement and is inclusive of the best information known to each of the undersigned at that date. Prompt consideration of the Information Disclosure Statement and the references by the Examiner is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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